

NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701:::301/473-8186

3/27/68

Mr. Jack White
Witherspoon and Associates
321 South Henderson
Fort Worth, Texas 76101

Dear Mr. White,

Your letter of 3/24 is encouraging because twice in two brief paragraphs you offer to help. That doesn't happen often, though it does happen and has resulted in worthwhile help.

Your copy of PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITENASH has been mailed separately. Here I would like to raise the question of what help you might be of feel you safely could extend.

I have from the first dreamed of being able to see all those pictures in print. I helped LIFE, which chickened out and engaged in mere flackery. But the real work is being done by a friend who is carrying on with what I started in a way that I could not dream of. He has done magnificent work, and rapidly he is finding photographers of whose existence I did not know. In many cases he has copies of the pictures; in some, rights. We do not violate the property rights of others, as you will see when you get PW.

One of the reasons I have been able to get so much information is because the word gets around that I do treat honorably and do counsel honestly.

All the problems boil down to money. Some of these people have fantastic ideas of what their schmalzy pictures are worth and no concept, until we started to teach them, what their real pictures could mean. This can be as extreme as Phil Willis, who actually thought he could sell the rights to his testimony. I think this would be one book that would have little trouble finding a publisher. What I would really like would be an edited version of PW, to put it in perspective, and the captioned pictures-together with such text as the new knowledge requires. In short, optimum if a large book, meaning thick, and an expensive one-but in my opinion, one that would sell and be profitable. I think it would serve an important national purpose, also.

Then there remains the problem of the pictures of which we do not know. There are many people who snapped amateur pictures who have laid them aside and forgotten them, who conceive that because their film does not show the head exploding it is of no value (which is quite wrong), or who are still afraid.

On two occasions friends have arranged for me to do radio talk shows in Dallas. The first time the show was ended when the man who ran it was promoted. The second I could not get there because my own work has me about \$35,000 in debt. That station would not air me by phone, something I do often and effectively (if you want to know, ask Allen Dale, for example, at San Antonio, WOAI). Now I think it is past time for a responsible "critic" to be heard there, and I think it would be good for Texans to learn that those of us who write so critically of

what happened in your great State do not hold all Texans or all Dallasites at fault. Dale, for example, will tell you that I clobbered Manchester on his show for what Manchester wrote. I would like very much to do a show or shows on the New Orleans aspect, which comes from my work and on which I am still working to help Garrison. There are things I can and do do for him that he cannot for himself, people who will speak to me and not to him, or who will not speak to him openly until I first talk to them.

I think the therapeutic value of such radio or TV in or near Dallas could be great. If the powerful people in that city could only come to realize it, they can do more for themselves this way than in any of the apologetic, self-service ways they have considered. If Hunt, for example, were to use some of his influence and money he could do himself more good than in all the indirect ways he seems to have tried. I know one newsman from the north he tried to interest in conducting an investigation for him. In short, were they to use someone like me, who is entirely out of sympathy with their politics, they would achieve a credibility available no other way. Because your business is public relations I think you'll understand this. And it could do much to alleviate the guilt feeling I hear hangs over the area.

At that time, whenever I can be aired there, I can make a subdued pitch for pictures, showing how they can be of value to the owner and the country, and possibly get some, for more, without doubt, exist.

But the problem of publication on this subject is neither easy nor simple. I've had my fifth book done for more than six months. I just cannot risk the additional indebtedness. Yet it is, in my opinion, the most shocking one yet. It is entitled POST MORTEM: SUPPRESSED KENNEDY AUTOPTSY. And it tells, with several hundred pages of suppressed documents, the inside story of that autopsy and what relates to it. In the past I have, as I could, tried the foundations. Where there were responses, they were negative. If this can be the problem of a man who has established a reputation in the field and earned the respect while he also earned the hatred of publishers, is there ground for optimism? I think so, but I would be less than honest in not writing to you this way.

There is also the problem of the glut of commercial trivia, the most recent being a disgraceful self-demeaning by the respected AP Pulitzer Prize-winning Reiman Morin, whose blatantly titled "Assassination" is really a rotten book.

Perhaps the major problem in completeness is the Zapruder film; but I think I know a way around that.

Anyway, I do hope you can find your way clear to be of help, one way or another. No one man, no group of men, can do what is required, and it must be done. I have no doubt of the profitability of the venture-enough copies could be sold in your State to pay the cost. If we can organize something, it can work.

I would like, very much, if you know how it can be arranged, to have a chance to talk to Hunt. He could make it all possible and help himself while doing it.

The enclosed flyer will let you know if you are missing any of my books. I have virtually no distribution in your area.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg